

2009 -- H 5537

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2009

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A N A C T

RELATING TO INSURANCE - ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES

Introduced By: Representatives Dennigan, Mattiello, and McNamara

Date Introduced: February 25, 2009

Referred To: House Corporations

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 27-18-34 of the General Laws in Chapter 27-18 entitled "Accident  
2 and Sickness Insurance Policies" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **27-18-34. Health insurance contracts -- Certified registered nurse practitioners and**  
4 **psychiatric and mental health nurse clinical specialists.** -- (a) Every health insurance contract,  
5 plan, or policy delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed in this state shall provide coverage for  
6 the services of a certified registered nurse practitioner and psychiatric and mental health nurse  
7 clinical specialist ~~practicing collaboration with or in the employ of a physician licensed under~~  
8 ~~chapter 37 of title 5 to subscribers~~, if the services are within the certified registered nurse  
9 practitioner's or psychiatric and mental health nurse clinical specialist's area of professional  
10 competence as established by education and certification, and are currently reimbursed when  
11 rendered by any other licensed health care provider. No insurer or hospital, medical service  
12 corporation, or health maintenance organization may require the signature, by any other health  
13 care provider as a condition of reimbursement. No insurer or hospital, medical service  
14 corporation, or health maintenance organization may be required to pay for duplicative services  
15 actually rendered by both a certified registered nurse practitioner and any other health care  
16 provider.

17 (b) Nothing in this chapter shall preclude the conducting of managed care reviews and  
18 medical necessity reviews by an insurer or hospital or medical service corporation or health  
19 maintenance organization.

1           (c) The insurance commissioner shall require all insurers, medical service corporations  
2 and health maintenance organizations to provide reimbursement to certified registered nurse  
3 practitioners to provide primary care, intermediate, home, long-term and inpatient care as primary  
4 care providers, when said nurse practitioner is a participating provider and practicing within the  
5 scope of his/her professional license.

6           (d) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, all insurers, medical service corporations  
7 and health maintenance organizations shall provide insured clients with an opportunity to select a  
8 nurse practitioner, who is a participating provider, as a primary care provider.

9           (e) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, all insurers, medical service corporations  
10 and health maintenance organizations shall insure that all participating primary care provider  
11 certified registered nurse practitioners are included on any publicly accessible list of participating  
12 providers for the respective organization.

13           SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
RELATING TO INSURANCE - ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES

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1           This act would make changes to health insurance contracts as it pertains to nurse  
2 practitioners.

3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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